

City of Flagstaff Section 8 Newsletter

Issue #10 Summer 2021

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ANNA JULIA COOPER, A VOICE FROM THE SOUTH

CFHA Office Open

CFHA Offices have reopened in a limited capacity effective June 21, **2021.** We will be limiting the number of people allowed in the lobby at any given time. A rack containing Change Reports and Applicant/Tenant Statements is available outside the office to be accessible without entering the office. If there is a need to copy requested verification please come inside for assistance. If you need to speak to your Specialist, but have not been sent an appointment please call or email the Specialist rather than coming to the office. Please do not come to the office if you are symptomatic (fever, coughing, etc.).

Office Hours 3481 N Fanning Drive

8:00 am-4:30 pm Monday-Thursday 8:00 am-12:00 pm Friday

Independence Day Parade is July 3rd

The Flagstaff Independence Day Parade will follow the usual route around Historic Downtown Flagstaff. This year, the parade is Saturday, July 3.

Independence Day Parade

Saturday, July 3 9:00 am-11:00 am



The route starts at Elm & Beaver, heads south down Beaver, left at Aspen and on to San Francisco back to Elm.

Celebrate safely and responsibly!

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Child Care for Returning Workers

Beginning June 1, 2021, the DES Child Care Administration will provide three months of child care assistance for parents and guardians with children who return to work after receiving unemployment benefits.

To be eligible for <u>Child Care for Returning Workers</u> assistance, an individual must:

- → Be a parent or guardian in need of child care assistance for their children ages 12 and younger.
- → Have filed an initial claim for unemployment benefits in Arizona.
- → Receive an unemployment benefit payment for the benefit week ending May 8 or May 15, 2021.
- → Currently be employed full-time or part-time.
- → Earn \$25/hr or less at a new job

Eligible individuals can apply for <u>Child Care for</u>

<u>Returning Workers</u> assistance through DES at

<u>bit.ly/3vb3jXE</u> or <u>des.az.gov/services/child-and-family/child-care/child-care-returning-workers-program</u> between June 1 and September 6, 2021.

As part of the application, the parent/guardian must select a DES approved child care provider, listed at www.azccrr.com or 1 (800) 308-9000. When searching for DES approved child care providers, individuals can click on the provider name to ensure that DES is listed under Fund Source.

Flagstaff Aquaplex:

Free Summer Swim Lessons

June 8th through August 31, Flagstaff Residents can take advantage of free swimming lessons. Sessions are separated by age (all times are pm):

Tuesday-Saturday Schedule

12:00 - 12:30: Parent and Tot

12:35 - 1:05: Preschool A

1:10 - 1:40: Preschool B

1:45 - 2:15: Level 1

2:20 - 2:50: Level 2 & Level 3

2:55 - 3:25: Parent & Tot, Preschool A

3:30 - 4:00: Preschool B

4:05 - 4:35: Level 1

4:40 - 4:35: Level 1

For more information, text (928) 853-2560 or email AQSwimlessons@flagstaffaz.gov.

You & Your Wallet:

Setting a Household Budget

The income and expenses of each household are unique, but establishing a budget can help keep your family's spending on track while you work toward your financial goals. This is especially valuable if you are returning to work or receiving more income from the expanded Child Tax Credit.

How to Create a Budget:

- 1. **Be honest with yourself.**Recognize your income and expenses, whatever they may be. A good budget starts with honesty.
- Gather your financial papers. Gather the documents you use for applying or recertifying. These documents will tell you your income and bank statement will tell you your expenses.
- 3. Calculate your income. Total your net income (income after taxes and benefits are paid) from paychecks, social security, child support, self-employment, or anything else. Or, check your Family Worksheet for gross income, but be sure to subtract any payments that come out of paychecks to get your net income.
- 4. **List monthly expenses.** Common expenses include rent, car payments, insurance, groceries, utilities, entertainment, toiletries, childcare, bus fare, gas, loan payments, and savings.
- 5. Which expenses are fixed and which are variable? Fixed expenses are the mandatory payments that typically stay the same; such as: rent, car payments, and childcare. Variable expenses include groceries, gas, entertainment, and gifts. Categorize different expenses and total each category for the last three months to see how much and where you're spending.
- Compare income and expenses. Expenses (including savings) should be less than your income, otherwise you're building up debt.
- 7. Adjust your expenses. Where can you save to balance your budget? If you have more income, how much can you save or use to pay off loans?

Next month, we'll talk about budgets that can help you reach your financial goals. Source: the balance, thebalance.com/how-to-make-a-budget-1289587.



COVID-19 Vaccinations

Everyone 12 years of age and older are now eligible for COVID-19 vaccinations. In addition, CFHA developments will be hosting Coconino County Health & Human Services vaccination pop ups! All are welcome to stop in for first vaccination doses, free of charge and no appointment needed, at one of these events (see included flyer for more info):

- → Siler Homes Activity Center, 3330 E Elder Drive, July 6th, 4:00-6:00 pm
- → Cogdill Center at Brannen Homes, 301 S Paseo Del Flag, July 7th, 4:00-6:00 pm
- → Clark Homes Office, 980 N Thorpe Rd., July 8th, 4:00-6:00 pm

For more vaccination information:

- → (928) 679-7300 COVID-19 Info Line
- → Coconino.az.gov/2547 Vaccine Page
- → Coconino.az.gov/2580 Vaccine Locations
- → CDC.gov/vaccines/covid-19

READY, SET, GO!

Expect emergency officials to use these keywords during fire and flood events:

- 1. Get Ready Take personal responsibility and prepare your family before the threat is obvious. Assemble emergency supplies, plan escape routes, and talk to your family.
- 2. Be Set Pack necessities (clothing, toiletries, medicines) and check your emergency items. Know how to receive and stay aware of the latest news from local media, the fire department, and safety officials.
- **3. Go!** When needed, evacuate! Follow your personal action plan, adhere to local jurisdiction's evacuation processes.

Learn more at ein.az.gov/ready-set-go.

NACA Hiking Series

Native Americans for Community Action is hosting a hiking series! Pre-registration is encouraged but not required. All are welcome! Drink plenty of water, wear sunblock, and appropriate clothing. All hikes begin at 7:30 am at the trailhead.

- → Schultz Creek Trail No. 152, July 31 with the NACA Family Enrichment Camp
- → Picture Canyon, August 28
- → Lockett Meadow, September 25

For more information, call <u>(928) 773-1245 ex 221</u> or email <u>nacawellnesscenter@nacainc.org</u>.

Book Giveaway!

Thanks to Flagstaff Family Food Center and Kitchen, the CFHA has books to give away! We have books for children of all ages, including short story collections for children, novels for preteens and teens, and kidfriendly non-fiction books, too! <u>Pick up books July 12-15 during business hours at Siler Office for your young readers!</u>

Stage 4 Fire Restrictions

Learn more about fire restrictions in the city of Flagstaff at: http://www.flagstaff.az.gov/2981/Fire-Restriction-Stages

Stage 4 Fire Restrictions

FUTS Closures

Sections of the Flagstaff Urban Trails System that provide an entrance into the Coconino National Forest are closed, including:

- Mars Hill Trail
- Tunnel Springs TrailLittle America Loop
- Little America
 Arizona Trail
- Sinclair Wash Trail
- Pipeline Trail
- Switzer Canyon Trial
 Sheeps Crossing off Pulliam Trail

Open Space Closures Public entry without prior city

Public entry without prior city authorization of the following city open space lands is prohibited:

- Observatory Mesa
- Picture Canyon City Open Space

Fire Pits

Open fire pits and open flame devices (even those with a spark arrestor screen) are prohibited.

BBQs

All outdoor grills (even those with an on/off switch) are prohibited.

Fireworks

The sale or use of consumer-grade fireworks within the city is prohibited.

Smoking

Smoking in all public places is prohibited.

Burn Permits

No permits are issued for open burning within the city.







The Federal Communications Commission has launched a temporary program to help families and households struggling to afford Internet service during the COVID-19 pandemic. The Emergency Broadband Benefit provides a discount of up to \$50/month for broadband service for eligible households and up to \$100 discount to purchase hardware. Enroll through a participating broadband provider - fcc.gov/emergency-broadband-benefit-providers - or directly with the Universal Service Administrative Company (USAC) using an online or mail in application - GetEmergencyBroadband.org.

For more info, call (833) 511-0311 or visit fcc.gov/broadbandbenefit. Mail-in applications in English and Spanish are available at the Siler Office.

Suddenlink and Centurylink are two Internet Service Providers in the Flagstaff area that are participating. You can reach EBB specialists:

→ CenturyLink: <u>1 (800) 767-9905</u>
 → Suddenlink: 1 (877) 694-9474

This is not an endorsement of either business.

STEAM Corner: Tynkertopia!

Tynkertopia, a STEAM Community Center, will be opening soon in the Siler Homes Community Center at 3330 E Elder Drive. They will offer activities and challenges to develop creativity and inquiry in kids aged 1-18. Watch their website (<u>Tynkertopia.org</u>) for news. To volunteer or ask a question, please call Dr. Alice at (928) 326-3400.

Tynkertopia will have a number of open-houses to introduce community members to their offerings. Watch for announcements, schedule of open-houses and open hours in the front window of their building.

Child Tax Credit & the American Rescue Plan

The American Rescue Plan's (ARP) expansion of the Child Tax Credit supplements the incomes of low- to moderate-income families. See IRS.gov/childtaxcredit2021 for more

- → Credit has increased to \$3,600 for children under 6 and to \$3,000 for children 6-17.
- \rightarrow 17 year olds are now covered.
- → Credited amounts may be made through advance payments during 2021 allowing families to receive financial assistance in 2021.

The IRS will establish an online taxpayer portal so you can update relevant data for mid-year payment adjustments, such as the birth of a child in 2021.

Flagstaff Sustainability Events: Fix It Clinic & Watershed Clean Ups

Fix-it Clinic



Join Flagstaff
Sustainability Program
Saturday, July 10, 2021
from 10am-2pm at Joe

C. Montoya Community and Senior Center for a Fix It Clinic Extravaganza! Let a volunteer fix your broken household item for free! Also there, Tynkertopia will be hosting a geocaching event for kids; kids will need a smart phone and a sense of adventure to join! They will also be accepting crafting and office supply donations for their creation space. The Hazardous Products Center will be on hand to recycle CFLs, aerosol cans, and batteries! For an appointment to get an item fixed, call Maggie at (928) 213-2144.

Upcoming Watershed Clean Ups!

Help keep litter out of Flagstaff's waterways! Upcoming clean up dates are: **Thursday, July 8th, 3pm** at the empty lot on Soliere, west of Country Club Dr. and **Thursday, July 29th, 3pm** at the back entrance of the Huntington Walmart, 2601 E Huntington Dr.

Bring sturdy shoes, sun protection, and a refillable water bottle. The Sustainability Program will supply trash pickers, disposable gloves, and trash bags. All participants will be entered into a prize drawing at the end of the series! For more information, call (928) 213 -2152 or email Marissa.molloy@flagstaffaz.gov.

Your Story Could be Featured in the next Newsletter!

If you have news of accomplishments, original artwork, poetry, community group news, recipes, or if you just want to see something specific in the next newsletter, we want to hear from you! Send Caleb your stories or suggestions and they may be featured in the next newsletter!

Stop by the Siler Homes office, email caleb.alexander@flagstaffaz.gov, or call (928) 213-2738.

